COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE BUDGET SESSION, 1120

Monday, *the* *30th July 1945* / *15th Karkadagam 1120*

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at half past Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble President (Sir GEORGE BOAG, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.) in the chair.

All the members were present.

SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS

The following members were sworn in.—

1. Rao Sahib J. N. Menon
2. Mr. K. S. Raghavan
3. Dr. S. S. Rao
4. Mr. M. Sivarama Menon

OPENING SPEECH BY THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President: Honourable Members,

Since last I addressed this Council important events have occurred both in this State and abroad. Here we have had a general election and it is largely a new Council which I now have the honour and the pleasure to address; and abroad the war in Europe has come to an end with the complete defeat of Germany by the combined forces of Russia, the U.S.A., Great Britain and France. Hon'ble Members will bear with me if before I deal with the matters which constitute the business of the coming Session, I make brief references to these events.

The victory won over Germany is an achievement of the first magnitude and all those who have in any way contributed to it are entitled to the warmest congratulations and the highest esteem of every one who values the cause of justice and fair dealing as between nation and nation. It will always be a matter of pride and gratification that so many sons of India played an honourable and effective part in winning this victory; and Hon'ble Members will all be glad to think that more than one subject of this State has won credit and renown for himself and for the State, which is his home, on the battlefields of Africa, Sicily and Italy. It was a matter of pride to every subject of His Highness when the Military Medal was awarded to L/Nk. Paramu for gallant services in Burma. But let no one think that the war is over—and let no one relax his efforts or revert to the easy-going ways of a piece-time world until Japan has been reduced to the condition in which Germany finds herself today. Indeed it may well be that as India is nearer to Japan, she will be called upon to put forward an even greater effort than she has done hitherto to secure an early victory over that enemy. I am quite certain that in order to achieve this end Hon'ble Members and indeed all subjects of His Highness will be ready and willing to make any further effort or to offer any further sacrifice which may be required of them. Peace is a condition necessary for progress, political economic and social; and therefore the restoration of peace must be the fist consideration in all our discussions.

The General Election which returned the elected element in this Council was preceded by a revision of the electoral rolls at which rather more than 1,40,000 voters were registered. Special provision was made for the enrolment of men otherwise qualified who are out of the State with one of the Defence Services; but these facilities were availed of only by 17 persons. Similarly provision was made for men on service whose names were included in the electoral rolls to vote by proxy—and this opportunity was taken by 49 of them. The election was conducted under the "coloured box" system which involves very complicated arrangements at the polling booths. The Government has received a number of complaints regarding mistakes in the preparation of the electoral rolls and also regarding the conduct of the election by some of the polling officers. Allegations regarding such defects are also made in some of the ten election petitions which will shortly be enquired into by the Election Tribunal which has been consti-

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tuted. As soon as full information from these and other sources is available the Government will make a close study of the whole subject and try to prescribe safeguards adequate to prevent a recurrence of any defects which may be shown to exist in the administrative machinery employed on such occasions.

As a result of this election there has been a change of Minister. His Highness the Maharaja has placed on record his appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. T. K. Nayar as Minister in charge of the Transferred Departments. One enduring result of his administration is the Panchayat Act which has just been placed upon the Statute Book; it is hoped that this Act which confers greater powers and responsibilities on Panchayats will conduce to a material improvement in the conditions of life in the rural parts of the State. Another important enactment which has recently received His Highness' assent is the Vagrancy Act by which it is hoped to reduce the prevalence of vagrancy. This Act is mainly based on the recommendations of a Committee of which Mr. T. K. Nayar was the Chairman. I am sure that all Hon'ble Members would wish me to say a word of welcome to Mr. Parambi Lonappen as the new Minister and to wish him success in his administration.

The year which is now drawing to a close has been a busy one. Apart from the two important pieces of legislation which I have just mentioned, no less than 19 other Acts have been passed and 19 Proclamations have been made by His Highness. Among the Acts perhaps the more important are the Cocoanut Committee Act, which in association with the Governments of India, Madras and Travancore, sets up a Committee to study and help the cocoanut industries, the Companies Act, the Employment of Children Act and the Employer's Liability Act. Of the Proclamations I need refer only to that which abolished the sentence of death in respect of certain offences by which gracious boon His Highness signalised his last birthday.

As I turn from the Legislative activity of the year to the main features of administrative activity I propose to discuss these features as illustrative of the modifications which it has been found necessary to make in the Revised Estimate as compared with the Budget Estimate of the current year. But before I do this I must make a brief reference to the financial results of the year 1119. That year closed with an actual surplus of nearly Rs. 34 lakhs instead of the Rs. 18·50 lakhs which had been contemplated in the Budget Estimate and Revised Estimate. The improvement was due to increased revenue of Rs. 7 50 lakhs (mostly due to the Excess Profits Tax) and short expenditure of Rs. 8 lakhs, due partly to failure to make use of the full allotment provided for mid-day meals in schools, partly to short deliveries of timber and partly to savings under refunds of Income-tax. The final figures of the year reveal a gratifying result of strict control of expenditure in the almost complete absence of expenditure in excess of the Revised Estimate. Of the Rs. 34 lakhs surplus the Government decided to add Rs. 25 lakhs to the Revenue Reserve Fund which was thus raised to Rs. 78·75 lakhs at the beginning of the current year. We are taking from this Fund Rs. 2 lakhs this year and we propose to take Rs. 3·25 lakhs next year for Rural Reconstruction leaving in the fund Rs. 73·50 lakhs. This is a useful contribution to the large sums which will be required for our post-war development plans of which I shall shortly speak.

Coming now to the Revised Estimate of 1120, I should first call attention to the large increases as compared with the Budget Estimate both of revenue and expenditure, revenue being up by more than Rs. 34 lakhs and expenditure by Rs. 45¾ lakhs, the result being a reduction of the expected surplus from Rs. 16½ lakhs to a little over Rs. 5 lakhs. The increased revenues are derived partly from the duties on vegetable products and on betel nuts which have been imposed in the course of the year in conformity with corresponding duties imposed in British India, partly from the production of larger quantities of timber and fuel from the forests, and partly from a further increase in the yield of the Excess Profits Tax. I need say nothing of a number of small increases under other heads nor need I give any explanation of the increased yield under Income-tax and Excess Profits Tax. But I should like to take this opportunity of saying a few words about the duty on betel nuts, which has evoked considerable criticism, and about the increased revenue we expect to derive from our forests.

The duty on betel nut was imposed in British India with effect from April 1st 1944; and a request was addressed to the State to impose a corresponding duty accompanied by a strong hint that unless the State agreed an import duty would be imposed on all betel nut sent across the frontiers of the State to British Indian markets. Enquiries quickly revealed that the great bulk of the betelnut produced in the State is exported to British India; and it also became

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evident that the British Indian merchants to whom the produce was consigned had lost no time in reducing the price paid to the exporter by the amount of the duty levied in British India. Thus the situation that developed was that the price to the grower in the State had in effect been reduced by the amount of the duty imposed in British India, while the whole benefit of this duty accrued to the revenues of the Central Government and nothing came to the State coffers. In these circumstances the State Government thought it necessary to protect the State revenues by ensuring that, in as much as the producers in the State were anyhow being charged the duty, the State revenues should get at any rate some benefit from it and that it would be quite wrong to remain inactive while the whole benefit of the duty paid by growers in the State accrued to the revenues of the Government of India. Accordingly emergent action was taken to levy a duty at the same rate as had been imposed in British India. As in the case of matches and other Central Excises, the proceeds of the duty are pooled and distributed between the Central Government and the State proportionately to the population. Under this system of distribution we expect to receive for the State a net revenue of Rs. 7¾ lakhs this year and Rs. 13¼ lakhs next year. I may add however that in pursuance of representations made by growers of betel nut in the State the Government has addressed the Government of India on the incidence of this duty and suggested certain modifications. The Government here is fully alive to the complaints that the levy of this duty has provoked and is watching the situation closely. We are also in communication with the Governments of other States affected.

I pass to the increase of Forest revenue which I know is causing some Honourable Members to fear that the valuable capital property which we possess in our forests is being wastefully squandered under the guise of meeting demands for military supplies. I wish to repeat the assurance which I gave a year ago that no such clamity is happening. On the other hand the felling of timber and fuel for which the war has created a market has been a benefit rather than a loss to our forests. It has in the first place enabled us to get a good price for young teak which must in any case have been cut out of our plantations if other trees are to have room in which to grow to full maturity. Secondly the demand for timber of all sorts has made it worth while to fell a large number of trees of inferior quality and so to leave ground open for the plantation of more valuable types. And thirdly the shortage of timber and fuel has created a demand for much of the wood from trees blown down in the cyclone of 1942 or felled in connection with the Hill Paddy Scheme and the Grow-More-Food Campaign which would otherwise have been left to rot where it lay. I am confident that our Forest Department is fully alive to the need for preserving and improving this valuable property and that it has welcomed the war-time demands for timber and fuel not only as a means of increasing its revenues but also as an opportunity to clear away a lot of inferior growth and make room for more valuable growths. Of 13,000 acres of forest cleared for Hill Paddy cultivation 4,860 acres have already been rehabilitated either by artificial regeneration or by cultural operations. The department plans to regenerate another 4,000 acres in 1121.

The Revised Estimate provides for an expenditure of Rs. 45·73 lakhs in excess of that for which the Budget made provision. The departments mainly responsible for this increased expenditure are Public Works, Forest, Food, Excise and Police, while all departments have had to provide for increased expenditure on account of Dearness Allowance and Town Allowance. Increases of these allowances have been made necessary by the continued rise in the cost of living and the increasing strain to which the prolongation of these conditions has exposed all rank of Government servants. The Government has felt it necessary to do something to ease this strain, though it recognises that the enhanced rates of allowance, which closely follow those granted in Madras, do not fully compensate for the rise in the cost of living.

In the case of the Forest and Excise Departments the increased expenditure for which provision is made in the Revised Estimate represents the cost of raising the additional revenues for which provision has also been made. The Forest Department has to incur larger expenditure on the extraction of the larger quantities of timber and fuel which produce the increased revenues expected; and in the Excise Department it has been necessary to entertain an additional staff to collect the new Excise duties. In the case of the Public Works Department the increased provision has been made necessary first, by the fact that inadequate provision was made in the Budget for the high cost of materials and labour which have continued throughout the current year; secondly, to the inception in the course of the year of new schemes such as storage godowns for foodgrains, and accommodation for the new Training College, which were not contemplated at the time the year's budget was prepared. The increased expenditure in the Police Department represents almost entirely the transfer to that department

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of the Fire Service Section of A.R.P. The improvement in the war situation in the course of the year has made it possible to give up all A.R.P. measures and to disband the Staff. Included among these measures was the provision of adequate Fire Services for the towns of Ernakulam, Mattancheri and Trichur. Fires may occur even in peace time, and the Governmant considered it wise to retain the fire-fighting appliances acquired as part of the A.R.P. measures and the staff which had been trained to use them. The administration of this Fire Service has been entrusted to the Police Department to whom the provision for the maintenance of the equipment and the pay of the staff has also been transferred. In order to provide the Fire Service with the full equipment and accommodation necessary for its efficiency some further expenditure will be required and provision is made for this expenditure amounting to nearly Rs. 4 lakhs, partly in the Revised Estimate for this year and partly in the Budget Estimate for next year.

The other department whose Revised Estimate shows a considerable increase over the Budget Estimate is the Food Department. It has been necessary to maintain all the activities of this department throughout the year and to expand them in some directions. Fortunately suppiies of food grains have come in throughout the current year in much larger quantities than during 1119. This increase in the quantity of foodgrains to be handled has involved increased expenditure in provision of storage accommodation and staff to handle the stores. The methods employed for the purchase of home-grown paddy have been improved and this improvement is reflected in the larger quantity of paddy purchased during the current year. Moreover the accounts for the year 1119 have just been closed and they disclose that the transactions for the year resulted in a loss of a little less than Rs. 10 lakhs. More than half of this loss—nearly Rs. 7 lakhs—was caused by the sale of wheat and other dry grains below cost price in an attempt to popularise the consumption of these grains and by the fact that the full cost of transport and charges on account of interest were left out of account in fixing the selling price price of foodgrains. The remainder of the loss, rather less than Rs. 3 lakhs, was due to the deterioration of stocks while in Government stores. When it is remembered that the total transactions of the year came to nearly Rs. 5 crores the loss of Rs.3 lakhs through deterioration of stock is by no means excessive. I shall be very much surprised if the accounts of the current year do not show an even larger loss due to the same causes, the sale of grain below cost price and wastage of stocks due to deterioration.

I now come to the Budget for the year 1121. We estimate the revenue at Rs. 294¼ lakhs and the expenditure at Rs. 282½ lakhs—another record in the financial history of the State. As compared with the Revised Estimate these figures represent a revenue increased by Rs. 41·25 lakhs and an expenditure higher by Rs. 34·64 lakhs. The increaed revenue is almost entirely due to the very high bidding at the auction of Abkari, Opium and Tobacco shops. The very high figures reached at the sales this year prove that there is still plenty of money in the hands of the people who patronise these shops. The departments which contribute most to the increase of expenditure are Education and Panchayats. I may also invite the attention of Hon'ble Members to the provision which is made in the budget for the flatation of a new loan. The Government's proposal is to take advantage of the availability of money to raise a loan of Rs. 1 crore which will be immediately useful in saving us the interest paid on the overdraft at the bank by which we have been financing our purchases of food supplies, and will eventually be required for expenditure on our post-war development schemes. I do not propose to detain Hon'ble Members with a detailed examination of the Budget figures. The Finance Member will deal with them in detail in his budget statement. I shall only mention in passing a few of the new schemes of expenditure for which provision has been made. We propose to strengthen the Finance Secretariat in order to ensure more efficient financial control; but apart from this the great majority of the new schemes for which provision is made will confer, it is hoped, direct and immediate benefit on the rural population. We are providing for substantial expansions of the activities of the Fisheries, Co-operative, Ayurvedic and Public Health Departments. We have allotted funds for the starting of three new veterinary hospitals. We have made provision for the starting of an agricultural demonstration farm in the Chittur Taluk and for the starting of centres for the salvage of dry cows from the towns. We also propose to extend the experimental operations which we have undertaken in the Nelliampathies by opening a cattle-rearing station there. For Panchayats, we are providing a lump sum of Rs. 3·25 lakhs instead of the usual Rs. 2 lakhs. We are also giving a full-time clerk to each Panchayat, and we are making substantial provision for repairs to irrigation and communication works and for the opening of new village libraries. We also propose to provide substantial funds for the expansion of educational facilities, for the improvement of our medical services, for the opening of new Anchal offices, and for the supply to Anchalmen of some protection against the weather.

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Finally I should like to mention one matter in which I take a great personal interest, and that is the provision made for the expansion of the activities of our Archaeological Department. We are making excavations at Cranganur, where there is reason to think we may find traces of a Roman settlement which is believed to have existed there; and we are also providing for the starting of an Archaeological Museum in which any discoveries made at Cranganur or in other parts of the State which possess an archaeological interest may be displayed for the instruction and interest of the general public.

Before I conclude my speech on the budget estimates I should like to say a word or two regarding the policy which underlies them, and to give Hon'ble Members such information as I can regarding the plans which the Government is making for post-war developments. The budget contemplates in the first place that so long as the war continues the State will continue to give full support to all measures undertaken with the object of providing men and material necessary for the prosecution of the war. So long as men are required for the fighting services, so long as technicians and labour units are required we propose to do our best to satisfy all demands which are made upon us. Similarly we propose to continue to meet in full demands for material supplies such as timber and coir. Furthermore, Government believes that so long as war activities are necessary, so long will it be necessary to carry on the publicity and propaganda required to explain to the population the progress of the war, the need for continued support and the various ways in which the support required can be supplied from the State. This Government does not consider it wise to disband the National War Front or to change its name so long as war efforts are needed. Provision has therefore been made for the continuance of the National War Front and the War Publicity operations.

Although the food situation has greatly improved since I last addressed this Council, it cannot yet be said to be altogether free from anxiety, nor can we expect a return to normal conditions until it becomes possible to resume normal imports of rice from Burma. When that may be possible we cannot forecast, and in the meanwhile we have to make provision both for the production of as much food as possible in the State and for the import from outside of the supplies necessary to feed the population here. The budget contemplates the continuance of the Food Department and all its miscellaneous activities throughout the coming year. I may, however, add that, should circumstances change in the course of the year and it become possible to give up any part of the control now exercised the earliest possible opportunity will be taken to relax controls and to restore normal trading conditions.

Among the more important of the activities of the Public Works Department for which provision is made in the budget are the improvement of water supply to Ernakulam, Mattancheri and Willingdon Island, the extension of electric power obtained from Pallivasal in Travancore to Trichur, the completion of the road from Chalakkudi to the Anamallais, the continuance of the Mullurkayal Reservoir Scheme, and the extension of measures to protect the coast from erosion by the action of the sea. The very great increase in the demand for water by the Port and by the large population connected with the Defence Services on Willingdon Island has made it necessary to undertake works of considerable magnitude in order to improve the supply of water pumped from the Periyar River at Alwaye. But for this demand created by the war emergency these works would certainly not have been undertaken at present, but as the need for them has become manifest, they have been undertaken. The Defence Department is paying for a considerable part of the work, and the work when once done will be a permanent asset to the State.

The construction of the transmission line to carry electric current from Alwaye to Trichur has been started and it is hoped that the supply will be available within the next few months. At the same time we are trying to obtain from Travancore more power for Ernakulam and Mattancheri, and during the last few weeks it has been possible to make a small quantity of power available to Mattancheri.

Work on the Chalakkudi-Anamallais Road is making rapid progress. Earth-work has been completed on the 17 miles up to the site where the road crosses the Chalakkudi river. Work on the bridge has been started. It is expected that by the end of this year the road up to this point will be metalled. Provided supplies of steel and cement are received in time, work on the bridge should be completed before next year's monsoon, and beyond the river the survey of the entire length of the road has been completed, construction is already in progress on a stretch of 4 miles and it is hoped within a year to have the whole road opened to traffic. The value of the road so far as it has been opened to traffic has already been amply demonstrated by the value of the timber and fuel which it has been possible to extract from the forests through which the

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road passes. I hope this is only the first of many roads to be constructed in the forest areas of the State by which their hitherto unexplored and unexploited wealth may be made available for the good of the people.

The value of the Mullurkayal Reservoir Scheme was demonstrated this year in a convincing fashion when, but for the water stored in the reservoir, there would certainly have been a very extensive loss of the Kole crop. Even as it was, the crop on a considerable area was lost. But on the greater part of the Kole lands it was possible to harvest the crop and this could not have been done without the help of the water stored in the Mullurkayal Reservior. The Government therefore proposes to continue this experiment for sometime longer. At the same time the Government is considering other schemes for the improvement of irrigation facilities. It is disappointing that another year has passed without any work on the Chalakkudi Scheme, but negotiation with Tavancore has made good progress, and I earnestly hope that within a few weeks the agreement between the two States will be concluded, so that it may be possible to start work on the project.

The Government has for sometime been aware of the loss caused to land on the sea coast by erosion and action has been taken in some of the worst affected places to afford some protection against the sea by the construction of groynes. It is proposed to continue the construction of these groynes wherever necessary and to complete the work of their construction along the threatened parts of the coast within a period of six years. The attention of the Government has also been attracted to another and equally destructive form of erosion—the washing away of soil by the action of heavy rain and flooded rivers—and we hope to be able to put forward proposals which may be effective in arresting this waste of the natural wealth of the land.

Hon'ble Members will have realised that this is another war time budget. I hope it is the last of the series. At the same time Hon'ble Members will find that this budget contains provision for the preliminary stages of post-war development. In my budget speech last year I spoke of the need, if our education system is to be worthy of its reputation, for greater facilities for the training of teachers. A Training College has just been opened and I hope that this institution will supply the need which was manifest to all who have the progress of education at heart. This budget also contains provision for the deputation of a number of candidates for special technical training in various branches of engineering and in the latest developments of agricultural and veterinary sciences; so that they may be ready with the latest knowledge to work out our post-war plans. Meanwhile the preparation of these plans has proceeded continuously. I had hoped that by this time they would have reached a stage at which they might usefully be laid before representatives of public opinion for study and criticism. Unfortunately, however, in several important respects they are still far from complete. In respect of education, for example, we have not yet been able to complete examination of the Code Revision Committee's report; and as it seems probable that the development and improvement of our educational system will absorb a large proportion of the money which is likely to be available, the Government thought it unwise to invite comment or criticism from the public until it is possible to give a reasonably complete picture of what we propose. The Government still intend, as I said a year ago, to consult pubic opinion and are only waiting to do so until they have a complete picture to present. When that time comes I think Hon'ble Members will find that the plans drawn up by the Government are comprehensive and provide for substantial progress in all directions. On the subject of industrial development we have already taken expert advice; the report prepared by the committee over which Mr. Manu Subedar presided has been published and Government have reviewed it accepting most of its recommendations. In one respect it has already become clear that this State suffers under a great handicap. One of the first questions asked by every one who is thinking of establishing a new industry is whether power will be available. To that question it is at present impossible to give a satisfactory answer; for in the matter of power we are still dependent upon the good offices of our neighbours, Travancore on one side and Madras on the other, neither of whom can spare as much as we need even now. It is abundantly clear that it is necessary for the State to have its own source of supply and that arrangements should be made for the starting of the execution of our own scheme as soon as possible. We have applied to the Government of India for facilities for the import of the plant necessary for this scheme, and we are hoping shortly to have the advantage of a visit and technical advice in this matter from Sir Henry Howard who has done so much for the advancement of hydro-electric development in Madras. I hope it will not be long before we are able to make a start with this scheme and that the power obtained from it will quickly be absorbed by

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industry. But however rapidly industrial development may proceed there can be no doubt that for very many years to come the great majority of the people of this State will depend upon some form of agriculture for their livelihood, and we are taking particular care to plan suitable developments in respect of agriculture and the activities connected with it. By irrigation works we hope to bring more land under irrigation and to enable two crops to be grown on land which now can only grow one. We are putting a little money into the Travancore Fertilisers and Chemicals undertaking, and securing a lien on part of the product of that factory. We are trying ways and means of improving the condition of livestock, and encouraging the rearing of improved breeds of pigs, goats and poultry. We also contemplate—and have again I think it will be to advantage of this State to work in co-operation with Travancore—the development of our fisheries, both deep-sea fishing, back-water fishing and fresh-water fishing in the rivers and tanks. The Travancore Government have invited us to participate in their scheme for research in this direction, and I think it will be to the advantage of the people of this State to contribute something to the cost of the Travancore research and to send some candidates from this State to take part in the work. We have to develop our forests on scientific lines and, in particular, to restore all over the State village forests sufficient to provide fuel, green manure and other necessities for the rural population. We hope to improve communications, both by rail, by road and by water, and to organise directly or indirectly adequate and efficient transport services throughout the State. This list is not exhaustive, but I hope it is sufficient to substantiate my claim that our plans for post-war development are comprehensive.

Plans of this magnitude must inevitably involve the expenditure of large sums of money, and perhaps it may be useful if I give some indication of the manner in which the Government contemplate the financing of these undertakings. I have already mentioned our Revenue Reserve which now exceeds Rs. 70 lakhs. We hope that by the time it becomes necessary to spend money on post-war development, the large sums locked up by the operations of the Food Supplies Department will have been released and that the whole of this amount will become available for expenditure. We expect shortly to receive back the sixty and odd lakhs of rupees which we have invested on the construction of the harbour. We also propose this year to raise a loan, taking advantage of the availability of surplus money. We reckon that by these means we should be able at once to lay our hands on something like Rs. 3 crores, and this should be more than enough to enable us to make a substantial start on our development schemes. The resources of the State are quite sufficient to support further loans if they are required. It remains to be seen how our revenues will be maintained when the special circumstances arising out of the war, which have enhanced them in the last few years, disappear. At present they are ample to meet all our needs. But prudence requires that we should be ready with proposals to fill any gap which may in future declare itself between revenue and expenditure. The financial position of the State is strong and grows stronger every year. I hope that this may continue after the war is over. Mean-while as we prepare our plans for post-war developments, we must bear in mind that an improvement in the general standard of living among all classes of the population, which is the object we have set before ourselves, cannot be achieved without a considerable increase of expenditure which in turn can only be met out of expanding revenues.

In conclusion I should like to acknowledge with gratitude the friendly co-operation we continue to receive from our neighbours—the Province of Madras, and the State of Travancore. I hope that in the matter of these post-war developments particularly, this State will work in collaboration with its neighbours and not in isolation. At the invitation of the Diwan of Travancore we have already initiated periodical discussions with that State regarding our plans and it is clear that there is much scope for co-operation to the mutual advantage of both States. I also wish to acknowledge the constant help and encouragement the Government receives from the Resident for the Madras States and through him from the Government of India. In respect of these post-war developments, the Government of India has been of the greatest help in keeping the State informed of their proposals in offering help and encouragement of every sort and, more particularly, in providing facilities for candidates from the State to obtain the specialised training necessary to equip them for the work which lies ahead of them. It is my hope that the measures for which provision is made in this budget may lead to the greater hapiness and prosperity of all the subjects of His Highness the Maharaja.

PANEL OF CHAIRMAN—ANNOUNCEMENT OF

Mr. President: I announce that I have nominated the following members as the Panel of Chairman.—

1. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.
2. Mr. P. M. Mayankutty.

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